

OPA!
Reviewed by Eva Heinemann for H-Drama
Sunday, August 10, 2008

I saw OPA! the Midtown International Theatre Festival, a new musical about life and love on a forgotten Grecian Isle. It's a story about passionate people with past secrets who long to be noticed by certain other people on the island and by the world at large. However, people and situations aren't always what they seem.

What made this musical particularly touching is knowing that Mari Carras (co-writer, book and lyrics) collaborated with her recently deceased father Nicholas Kitsopoulos (co-writer, music and lyrics) to create a wonderful fable of flawed people with amusing foibles. I especially enjoyed the earthy Carolee Goodgold pining for a lost love while ignoring true love right in front of her. I also loved Jan Leslie Harding as a busybody who makes good coffee and Eric Ruben as a priest who hates listening to people. This was a great summer escapism without having to pay for a plane ticket to Greece.